Scrapping of crop insurance scheme

9. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government had approached with a proposal to scrape the crop insurance schems;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government thereon;

(d) whether the State Government had also requested to fix the Minimum Support Price for certain categories depending upon the investment in the agricultural crops;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) to (f) The State Government of Andhra Pradesh in their reply to the questionnaire circulated by Commission on Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) have mentioned fixation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) for paddy and coarse grains commensurate with cost of cultivation and also for chillies, onions, turmeric and castor as these are the commodities required by lower and middle class people.

CACP is a recommendatory body and recommends price policy for mandated agricultural commodities in accordance with its terms of reference.

Plight of cotton growers in Vidarbha due to low yield

10. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the pitiable plight of the cotton growers of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra who have been forced to sell their kidneys due to low yield of the crop;